MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Mysore Paper Mills Limited (MPM) has been making marginal profits since 1989 except in 1993 when it incurred loss. The company has been provided some fiscal concessions and loans to overcome its difficulties and it is now running profitably.

(b) Import of newsprint has been decanalised w.e.f. 1.4.1992. The ratio of indigenous and imported newsprint which was 65:35 before decanalisation, has been now changed to 2:1 in respect of newspapers whose annual entitlement is more than 200 MT are permitted to import newsprint on the basis of Annual Entitlement Certificates issues by the RNI.

(c) Indian Newsprint Manufacturers Association and some Newsprint Mills in the Public Sector have reported that the newspaper units are not lifting the required quantity of newsprint from the indigenous mills and resorting the excess imports which has resulted in accumulation of unsold stocks with the indigenous mills causing financial hardships to them.

(d) Government keeps a constant watch on the problems faced by the indigenous newsprint industry. Suitable measures are taken by the Government as and when required to help the indigenous industry.

Implementation of Government O.M.

4153. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government O.M. Number 1 GL—001/83/23/1/83 BPE/ MM dated 20th April, 1983 has been cancelled/withdrawn/superceded; and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) which Government O.M. has superseded, cancelled or withdrawn the same and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether the same is being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (b) The Government O.M. No. GL—001/83/23/ 1/83—BPE/MM dated 20.4.83 and others on price and purchase preference were superseded by an O.M. No. DPE/ 13 (19)/91-Fin. dated 13.1.92 allowing only purchase preference, instead of price and purchase preference as allowed earlier to Central Government enterprises while dealing with other Central Government enterprises and with Central Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Clearance required for investments

4154. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in The Pioneer dated 1st August, 1994 under the caption "Officialdom has hit investment";

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that the clearances are required from numerous Ministries; and

(d) in what manner Government propose to reduce the need for clearances from numerous Ministries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government of India have alredy initiated various steps to eliminate delays in processing proposals for setting up of an industry.

The need for efficient and effective communication and coordination between Central Ministries and States has been emphasised in several forums. Recently, a Committee to suggest simplification of procedures of various approvals of industrial projects at the State level was set up under the Chairmanship of Chief